

## Message Text

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14-10  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 EB-07 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 OIC-02 AGR-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01

SAM-01 /084 W  
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R 141735Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 58  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGNE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAUGE  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 3788

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: ECIN, PFOR, EEC, IT  
SUBJECT: FURTHER ITALIAN VIEWS ON EC SUMMIT

REF: ROME 3681

1. MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) REP CALAMIA (DIRECTOR, EC-GATT AFFAIRS) HAS PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH GOI ASSESSMENT OF ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF MARCH 10-11 DUBLIN EC SUMMIT.

2. WITH RESPECT TO UK RENEGOTIATIONS, CALAMIA SAID GOI NEVER DOUBTED THAT SATISFACTORY SOLUTION WOULD BE ACHIEVED AT DUBLIN. ITALIAN REPS HAD GONE TO DUBLIN WITH JUST ONE OBJECTIVE: DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PERMIT SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF ALL OUTSTANDING RENEGOTIATION  
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ISSUES. IN FACT, IT WAS NOT NECESSARY FOR ITALY TO PLAY

ACTIVE ROLE AT DUBLIN SINCE THREE MAIN PROTAGONISTS --FRANCE, GERMANY AND UK-- WERE ABLE REACH AGREEMENT ON BUDGET AND NEW ZEALAND DAIRY PRODUCTS ISSUES. CALAMIA ATTRIBUTED SUCCESS TO POLITICAL WILLINGNESS OF OTHER EC MEMBERS TO ASSIST UK REMAIN IN THE COMMUNITY, PRIOR CONSULTATIONS AMONG FRANCE, GERMANY AND THE UK, AND COMMISSION'S (SUCCESSFUL) EFFORTS TO DEVISE REASONABLE BUDGET FORMULA.

3. CALAMIA INDICATED ALL ITALIAN PARTICIPANTS HAVE CLEAR IMPRESSION WILSON SATISFIED WITH OUTCOME OF RENEGOTIATION. GOI BELIEVES WILSON NOW IN POSITION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF "RENEGOTIATED" TERMS AND THAT HE WILL IN FACT DO SO AND RECEIVE APPROVAL BY LARGE MAJORITY IN CABINET. DESPITE RECENT UK OPINION POLLS SHOWING MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR REMAINING IN COMMUNITY, MFA UNWILLING PREDICT OUTCOME OF REFERENDUM. GOI WOULD BE EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED IF REFERENDUM RESULTED IN ANTI-MARKET MAJORITY.

4. CALAMIA SAID MFA REPS HIGHLY IMPRESSED BY WILSON AS "VERY SHREWD POLITIAN" SKILLED AT NEGOTIATIONS. HE EXPLAINED FUSS OVER NEW ZEALAND DAIRY PRODUCTS BY NOTING THAT WILSON HAD CRITICIZED HEATH IN 1971 FOR INADEQUATELY PROTECTING NEW ZEALAND'S INTERESTS AND THEREFORE FOUND IT NECESSARY, FOR POLITICAL REASONS, TO GIVE APPEARANCE OF SECURING BETTER TERMS FOR NEW ZEALAND BUTTER AND CHEESE.

5. CONSIDERING EC SUMMIT AS AN INSTITUTION, CALAMIA STATED THAT IT APPEARS WORKABLE IN ITS PRESENT FORMAT. DESPITE HAVING SEVERAL HIGHLY TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON AGENDA, HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MANAGED QUITE WELL, IN MFA'S OPINION. THE SYSTEM WILL WORK, HOWEVER, ONLY IF PRINCIPALS WELL BRIEFED AND HAVE READY ACCESS TO TECHNICIANS WHEN NEEDED. FOR IMPORTANT ISSUES, SUCH AS UK RENEGOTIATION, IT ESSENTIAL TO MEET AT HEADS OF GOVERNMENT LEVEL SINCE "FOREIGN MINISTER NOT ALWAYS THE APPROPRIATE POLITICAL PERSONAGE" TO MAKE ON THE SPOT DECISIONS. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**Type:** TE  
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